

## Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) Allowable Accommodations

Any departure from standardized test procedures can potentially invalidate the test results. The test validity is seriously threatened by modifications that change the nature of the task being tested. TCAP assessment accommodations are specifically defined as follows.

- **Modified Format Tests:** This refers to Large Print and Braille versions. Any modified format test must be requested in advance. Large Print and Braille tests may have special administration instructions because the test may vary from the standard print test. When administering the Achievement Test, refer to the “Teacher’s Notes to Braille Edition” for directions (including standardized time limits for the Braille version of the Achievement Test). The Braille version of the TCAP Achievement test may be taken with or without the accompanying audio tape. “Reader” for illustrations and graphs are also permitted with the Braille and large-print versions of the TCAP assessments. Students using “Readers” must have Visual Impairment verified on the IEP. Extended time for students using Large-Print editions is not permitted unless required conditions for Special Accommodation B are met.
- **Oral Instructions Delivery:** Directions normally read aloud to students may be signed for students with hearing impairments. Only spoken portions of the directions may be signed.

Directions normally read aloud or signed to students may be re-read/signed verbatim as needed.

- **Calculator:** A calculator may be used for test items that do not measure the academic skill of computation, e.g. applied concepts and algebraic problems, and is permitted on all TCAP Achievement, EOC and Gateway Tests. Therefore, calculator use is not considered a Special Accommodation. If the school system does not permit this Allowable Accommodation, the IEP Team or 504 Review Committee should document the use of a calculator as a Special Accommodation. See *Test Administration Manual* for selected subtests and calculator restrictions.
- **Flexible Setting:** Students may take TCAP assessments in an individual or small group setting, seated in the front of the room, in a study carrel, in the special education classroom, or at home if the student is homebound (with appropriate documentation).
- **Visual/Tactile Aids:** Aids may include magnifying devices, use of templates to reduce the amount of visible print on a page, masks, pointers, and abacus.
- **Auditory Aids:** Auditory aids include amplification devices and devices that are used as noise buffers.
- **Flexible Scheduling:** TCAP tests or subtests may be given in smaller segments adhering to the allotted time for that test/subtest. Each test/subtest must be taken during the given time allotment as specified in the *Test Administration Manual*. Extended breaks between subtests may also be given to the student. Any breaks that the student takes during the testing period must be closely supervised. Competency, EOC and Gateway tests may be divided into short subsections. EOC tests are timed and the administration must remain within the overall time allotted. Competency and Gateway are untimed and the student may take as much time as needed during the school day to complete the test.

Flexible scheduling does NOT mean giving the student extended time on a test/subtest. Any test/subtest that is given in smaller segments must be completed within one school day.

- **Scribe/Recording Answers:** Students who cannot mark their own answer documents may use an impartial Scribe. A Scribe may be used to record responses or to transcribe the student’s answers from a modified answer document or test booklet. Students who cannot complete the answer document may record directly in the test booklet or on a separate piece of paper. This accommodation may require special return packing procedures. Please contact your System Testing Coordinator for packing instructions. This accommodation is considered a Special Accommodation for the Writing Assessment, and students must meet the required conditions for Special Accommodation H prior to its use.